

Indoor Storage of LP-Gas Containers

Public Information Handout **F-5**

March 2005

The following is provided for your information and is based upon the City of Bellevue's adoption of the International Fire Code (IFC)

A Fire Department issued OPERATIONAL permit is required for the storage and use of LP-gas. Storage of portable containers whether filled, partially filled, or empty, at consumer sites or distributing points, and for resale by dealers or resellers shall comply with the following:

- Containers in storage are to be located in a manner which minimizes exposure to excessive temperature rise, physical damage, or tampering.
- Containers of sizes greater than 2.5 pound water capacity (one pound LP) shall be positioned upright.
- Containers shall not be located near exit access doors, exits, stairways, or areas normally used, or intended to be used, as a means of egress.
- Storage is prohibited in a basement, pit, or similar locations.
- Valves are to be protected with caps or collars, and container outlet valves shall be closed or plugged.

- 6) Buildings accessible to the public. Cylinders with a maximum water capacity of 2.5 pounds used in completely selfcontained hand torches and similar applications are allowed to be stored or displayed in a building accessible to the public. The quantity of LP-gas shall not exceed 200 pounds.
- 7) Buildings not accessible to the public.
 The maximum quantity allowed in one storage location in buildings not accessible to the public, such as industrial buildings, shall not exceed a water capacity of 735 pounds. Where additional locations are required on the same floor within the same building, they shall be separated by a minimum of 300 feet.
- 8) Containers shall be secured to prevent falling caused by contact, vibration, or seismic activity. Securing of containers can be accomplished by securing to a fixed object with one or more restraints, placing containers within a rack or framework or similar assembly designed for such use.